

DEC-29-03 12:52

FROM-Merchant & Gould

6123328081

T=613 P.001/017 F-828

**Merchant & Gould**  
An Intellectual Property Law Firm

3200 IDS Center  
80 South Eighth Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
55402-2215 USA  
TE 612.332.5300  
FAX 612.332.9081  
[www.merchant-gould.com](http://www.merchant-gould.com)

A Professional Corporation

**Fax Transmission** | December 29, 2003

TO: Commissioner for Patents  
Attn: Issue Fee  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Julie R. Daulton  
OUR REF: 02316.1522US01  
TELEPHONE: 612.336.4724

Total pages, including cover letter: 17

PTO FAX NUMBER 1-703-305-8755

If you do NOT receive all of the pages, please telephone us at 612.336.4724, or fax us at 612.332.9081.

Title of Document Transmitted:

Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181(a) Request for Withdrawal of Holding of Abandonment

Applicant: Douglas et al.  
Serial No.: 09/900,465  
Filed: 07/06/2001  
Group Art Unit: 2874  
Our Ref. No.: 02316.1522US01  
Confirmation No. 4239

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

By: Julie R. Daulton  
Name: Julie R. Daulton  
Reg. No.: 36,414

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Sharon Trent

Sharon Trent  
Signature

12-29-03

Date

S/N 09/900,465

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Douglas et al.	Examiner:	K. Wood
Serial No.:	09/900,465	Group Art Unit:	2874
Filed:	07/06/2001	Docket No.:	02316.1522US01
Title:	CABLE MANAGEMENT PANEL WITH SLIDING DRAWER AND METHODS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile to: 703-305-8755, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 29, 2003.

By:   
Name: Sharon Trent

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.181(a)  
REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants received a Notice of Abandonment mailed October 10, 2003. The Notice of Abandonment stated that the formal drawings were not received.

This Notice of Abandonment was sent in error. In fact, Applicants did submit the formal drawings on July 22, 2003. The PTO received these documents on July 28, 2003. Attached as Exhibit A is a photocopy of the stamped postcard receipt that shows the PTO received the formal drawings and a copy of the 13 sheets of formal drawings as filed.

Applicants paid the issue fee on August 13, 2003. Applicants were surprised to have received the Notice of Abandonment mailed October 10, 2003. It is noted that the Notice of Abandonment stated that the contact person at the PTO was Tom Hawkins. Applicants attempted to resolve this issue by telephone and left messages for Tom Hawkins. At one point, Mr. Hawkins' message said to contact a "Lamont" at 703-305-5358. A message was left for Lamont but the phone call was not returned to Applicants. Eventually, Mr. Hawkins did reply to

the messages that were left with him. Mr. Hawkins spoke to the assistant to the undersigned and merely instructed us to follow the instructions that were attached to the Notice of Abandonment.

Applicants realize that a Petition Under Rule 1.181, if not filed within two months of the mail date of the Notice of Abandonment "may be dismissed as untimely." Applicants request that the PTO grant this Petition, even though it is outside of the two month mailing date of the Notice of Abandonment. Applicants, in fact, complied with the initial request to submit formal drawings. Applicants attempted to resolve this matter by telephone and was frustrated by the failure of the PTO to timely return phone calls. Applicants are only 19 days outside the two month date. For at least these reasons, Applicants request that this Petition be considered timely and be granted.

If the PTO would like to discuss this matter, the PTO is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: 12-27-03

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie R. Daflton  
Reg. No. 36,414  
JRD:st